

Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

October 2013



Interested in more information?

Contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or sarah.elliott@wi.gov.

Funding Opportunities

Golden Belt Community Foundation Invites Applications for Youth Engagement Grants

Through the program, the foundation plans to designate approximately \$10,000 in funds to support one or more community youth projects and programs designed to empower youth with the ability, authority, and agency to make and implement decisions for their generation. Funds are available for projects/programs directly related to the health and well-being of individuals up to the age of 21. Deadline: November 1, 2013

Fruit Tree Planting Foundation - Orchard Donations

The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF) is dedicated to planting fruitful trees and plants to alleviate world hunger, combat global warming, strengthen communities, and improve the surrounding air, soil, and water. FTPF programs donate orchards where the harvest will best serve communities for generations, at places such as community gardens, public schools, city/state parks, low-income neighborhoods, Native American reservations, international hunger relief sites, and animal sanctuaries. Recipients must be nonprofits, public schools, or government entities. In addition, the "Fruit Tree 101" program creates outdoor edible orchard classrooms at public schools of all levels,



Greetings!

Happy National Farm to School Month! You will notice some changes to the Wisconsin Farm to School newsletter this week. We are unveiling a more user-friendly format, and we hope that you find it useful. The new format will enable us to cater future newsletters to provide you with the most useful information and resources.

Please spend a few minutes learning about all the great things that are happening this harvest season.

Happy Eating,
Sarah Elliott

across the country, to provide generations of students with environmental education opportunities and a source of organic fruit for improved school lunch nutrition. **Deadline:** Rolling

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Accepting Applications for K-12 Public School Improvement Projects

Grants of up to \$5,000 will support basic necessities, with a preference for funding requests that have a permanent impact, such as facility enhancement as well as landscaping/cleanup projects. **Deadline:** October 15, 2013

Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin Grants available again to grow Wisconsin local foods

Proposals will be accepted from individuals, groups, businesses and organizations involved in Wisconsin agriculture, food processing, food distribution, food warehousing, retail food establishments or agricultural tourism sites. **Deadline:** October 21, 2013

Whole Kids Foundation Accepting Applications for School Garden Grant Program

Grants of \$2,000 are available to public and private K-12 schools in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada to help fund school garden projects.

Deadline: October 31, 2013

Open Calls for Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Grants

The 2014 **Research and Education Grant** call for preproposals is now available. Preproposals must be submitted online by 4:00 p.m. CDT, October 24, 2013. [Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [Text](#)

The 2014 **Youth Educator Grant** call for proposals is now available. Proposals must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CDT, November 1, 2013. [Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [Text](#)

The 2014 **Farmer Rancher Grant** call for proposals is now available. Proposals must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CST, November 14, 2013. [Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [Text](#)

Timelines for NCR-SARE's grant programs can be found [here](#). Sample calls for proposals and lists of recently funded projects can be found [here](#).



A student from Hillsboro Elementary School displays a fall harvest bounty. Source: Vernon County Farm to School

October is National Farm to School Month

Join local farmers, schools and communities across our state and across the country and celebrate National Farm to School Month this month of October! If you need resources to help celebrate National Farm to School Month, you can find everything from farm to school posters to a communications toolkit on the [Resources](#) and [Media Center](#) pages of the Farm to School Month website. For additional information, take a look at the National Farm to School Month [Fact Sheet](#) and use the Theme of the Day Calendar as a reference. You can download a PDF of the Calendar right [here](#).

Let us know how you are celebrating the month!

Please email us about your plans for how your school, local non-profits or community will be celebrating National Farm to School Month. Email us at farmtoschool@mailplus.wisc.edu, and we will feature you in the next e-Newsletter!

Manitowoc County Celebrates Farm to School Month

Applications Invited for Terri Lynne Lokoff/Children's Tylenol National Child Care Teacher Awards

Fifty teachers will be selected to receive grants of up to \$1,500, plus the chance to win an additional prize of \$1,000, in recognition of their dedication to providing high-quality child care.

Deadline: December 6, 2013

Unsung Heroes Program Invites K-12 Educators to Apply for 2014 Class Project Awards

Each year, one hundred educators who are using new teaching methods and techniques to improve learning are selected to receive awards of \$2,000 each to help fund a class project.

Deadline: April 30, 2014

There are a wide variety of National Farm to School Month events taking place in Manitowoc County this October.

To kick off Farm to School Month, Farm to School Coalition members held a "Peaceful Protest" on Thursday, October 10th to promote farm to school. They marched in the downtown area with handmade signs with phrases such as, "Whole Kids deserve Whole Foods," "Whose your farmer? Real food is closer than you think," and "Support Farm to School."

This event was followed by a Food Demo on Saturday, October 12th at the Manitowoc Farmers Market to celebrate National Farm to School Month. Volunteer Farm to School Coalition members, public health professionals, UW-extension staff, and local chef partners were on hand to provide samples of recipes using locally sourced beets.

There will also be a kick-off event for Harvest of the Month at Jefferson Elementary After-school Program. Nancy Kellner of Back Acre Gardens will introduce potatoes at Family Fun Night and they will outline the monthly harvest of the month project in partnership with the Community Learning Center (CLC) grant that they recently received.

Lastly, Grow Lights contributed funding to the Farm to School Coalition in Manitowoc County to help four schools expand their school garden projects, as well as assist one producer that was seeking to extend their growing season in order to support farm to school programming.

REAP Food Group: Locally-grown produce to be served in all Madison school lunchrooms in honor of National Farm to School Month

In celebration of National Farm to School Month this October, students across Madison Metropolitan School District will enjoy delicious local produce in their school lunches!

Sparked by REAP's initial donation of three salad bars to the district, twenty-two Madison schools are now operating salad bars in their lunchrooms. Throughout October, each week will feature a different local product in the salad bars: kohlrabi, beauty heart radishes, coleslaw and baby red potato salad. All local produce was purchased from Just Local Foods, a network of small organic farms.

In addition, all district schools will serve the Wisconsin Harvest Medley for the first time! This blend of Wisconsin-grown sweet potatoes, carrots and parsnips has been developed specifically for Farm to School. Nearly 2,000 lbs. will be served over six different days in October. REAP is excited to report that local produce will be eaten by students of all grade levels, K-12!

These Farm to School Month products, combined with the weekly local fruits and veggies served by the REAP Snack Program, total 5,000 lbs. of local produce reaching Madison Schools in October!



Students at Lowell Elementary in Madison enjoy eating delicious locally-grown fruits and veggies from their salad bar. Source: REAP Food Group

Want to serve Wisconsin-grown foods in your school meals and snacks to celebrate National Farm to School Month?

Here are two great ways to get local into your school:

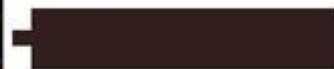
Use the brand new **Wisconsin Farm to School Producer Directory** to find the farms near you that are interested in selling products to schools (and educating at schools too!). Hot off the presses, the first edition of the Wisconsin Farm to School Producer Directory will help you to identify and contact producers in your area. (And if you are a farmer who would like to be listed in the directory, please send an e-mail to <mailto:farmtoschool@mailplus.wisc.edu>.)

Serve locally produced, processed and distributed **Harvest Medley Blends**, Wisconsin root vegetable blends, in your schools this fall and winter. For more information on the availability of the blends and how to order, please email WiHarvestMedley@gmail.com

One Way to Celebrate National Farm to School Month - Fall Farm Tours

Everyone loves to pick pumpkins and enjoy a cup or two of fresh apple cider at a local orchard. To inspire great enthusiasm and interest in farm to school programs and celebrations, consider a field trip to a local farm or orchard. Activities may range from farm tours and food processing lessons, to vegetable identifications and ecosystem scavenger hunt. Perhaps even harvesting can be included in the mix! **A Guide to Farm Field Trips for Farmers and Teachers** is a great resource developed by the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP); and includes curriculum connections for each grade level, logistics tips, and example lesson plans. For additional farm field trip resources, including information on how to fund these trips, see the 2nd page of the **DC Greens** website.

National Farm to Cafeteria Conference



Click on this picture to learn more about this national event in April.